PREVENTING NETWORK DISCOVERY OF A SYSTEM SERVICES CONFIGURATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Techniques are provided for preventing network discovery of a system services

5   configuration. Preventing network discovery of a host system services configuration

includes receiving a request from a remote address at a port on the host, observing a

pattern associated with the request, authenticating the remote address based on the pattern

associated with the request, and enabling access to the host over the port if the remote

address is authenticated. Also provided are the interception of port connection requests

10 and probes to enable connections with an authenticated remote address while preventing

remote port scanning and unauthenticated access to a target host. Hiding applications and

ports from remote port scanning but creating availability for remote administration is also

disclosed. Finally, using connection request and probe patterns to establish a password

and enable a remote address to access a port without being observed is provided.